

#### Abstract:

Bagging was applied to 'Fuyu' persimmon culture to increase fruit marketability, especially for improving appearance of fruit and extending shipping life. In 1992, fruits were bagged with white paper bags (40 % shade) from August 6- December 3, August 6- October 23, September 18 -December 3, and September 18 -December 3. Bagging from early August or mid September until early December markedly reduced blemishing compared to the control. Early removal of the bags in late October, however, caused increase of blemishing by harvest time. In 1993, bagging started every 2 weeks from July 9 to August 23 and continued until harvest on December 1. At harvest, fruit blemishing was reduced by bagging treatments, especially by earlier bagging.

When increased the shading level of the bags from 40 to 80%, the occurrence of blemishing was similar, but fruit weight was considerably decreased and the coloration was delayed at 80% shading.

Using scanning electron microscopy, the surface structure of the fruit harvested in early December was observed. In fruit grown with and without bagging, wax fragments in chrysanthemum leaf like shapes were found. Wax fragments were generated more densely in non-bagged fruit than bagged. Cracks penetrating the epidermis were observed in non-bagged fruit, whereas only small spots lacking wax fragments were found in the bagged fruit.